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Notes:

In re Application of: Beach et al.

Attorney Docket No. GNCA-P03-007

Serial No.: 10/055,797

Art Unit: 1632

Filed: January 22, 2002

Examiner: Bertoglio, Valarie E.

For: Methods and Compositions for RNA Interference

Transmitted herewith for the above-referenced patent application is a SECOND PRELIMINARY

AMENDMENT (5 pages).

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the claims of the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-47 without prejudice.

48. (new) A method for attenuating expression of a target gene in mammalian cells, comprising introducing into the mammalian cells a single-stranded hairpin RNA comprising self complementary sequences that form a duplex region, which self complementary sequences hybridize under intracellular conditions to a target gene, wherein said hairpin RNA (i) is a substrate for cleavage by a RNaseIII enzyme to produce a double-stranded RNA product, and (ii) reduces expression of said target gene in a manner dependent on the sequence of said complementary regions.